

Some ask why we simply can't just change the law that is on the books—amend it to make it a bit better. Mr. Speaker, we cannot build upon something that is fundamentally flawed. So before we move forward with a replacement, we must get rid of the law in front of us. Repeal will free businesses and individuals from costly, onerous, and unconstitutional mandates. Once we do that, we can move toward replacing it with real solutions that help Americans get affordable healthcare and help businesses avoid excessive costs and penalties associated with this law.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we can achieve these goals by doing the following things. First, we need to create a mechanism whereby small businesses and associations can pool together to get health insurance through their respective organizations. I believe that these associations and individuals should be allowed to purchase insurance plans across state lines, creating choice and competition which will ultimately drive down the cost of health insurance for everyone. Furthermore, tort reform must be addressed in a way that reduces medical malpractice lawsuits, which has had a profound effect on the ability of doctors to practice and has made the profession less appealing to individuals who truly want to serve those in need.

This healthcare bill is a recipe for further fiscal insanity. It expands already bloated entitlement programs and will add 32 million more people to these programs by 2019 at a cost of \$938 billion. States in particular will be severely burdened by the new law. They will now be required to increase Medicaid eligibility to cover individuals below 138 percent of the poverty level, which will eventually lead many already cash-strapped states down the road to bankruptcy. These expansions are simply unsustainable, especially during our current economic crisis. What we need is reform, not massive expansion of entitlement programs.

This is just one of the problems with this bill, Mr. Speaker. Not only will it expand entitlements, it will raise premiums for millions of families and it includes an unconstitutional mandate requiring individuals to purchase healthcare. At a time when families are already struggling to make ends meet, this is not the right choice for our country.

Finally, this bill was drafted behind closed doors, and without any transparency. The American people, let alone the Republicans in Congress, had little input into the final product that became law. We deserve better. The American people deserve better from their leaders, elected to represent their interests.

Mr. Speaker, I truly believe that we must work toward a system whereby Americans can get access to the doctors that best suit their needs at an affordable price. Repealing this healthcare law is the first step.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID N. WALSH

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Sergeant David N. Walsh, who is retiring after 31 years of law enforcement service—21 years of service to the city of Fair-

field, nearly eight years with the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department, and more than two years with Fresno County Sheriff's Department. As his colleagues, friends and family gather together to celebrate the next chapter of his life, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding public servant and defender of peace and safety.

David began his law enforcement career as a Deputy Sheriff with Fresno County and then Contra Costa County. He was then hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on November 27, 1989. As an officer, he worked in various capacities including Patrol, Investigations, Firearms Instruction, and Field Training. He joined the Special Activity Felony Enforcement, SAFE, Team in 1992 and was promoted to Police Corporal on April 19, 2002.

On July 9, 2004, David was promoted to Police Sergeant and ultimately supervised a number of different teams including Patrol, Violent Crime Suppression, Traffic and Investigations. He was an extremely capable and team orientated leader. Over the course of his career, David has received numerous commendations from the community and his co-workers.

David was a valued employee and leader of the Fairfield Police Department. His commitment to the community was unwavering. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired amongst his peers for his hard work, dedication and positive work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to pay tribute to this dedicated public servant. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing David N. Walsh continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DOCK MONTERIA BROWN

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, It is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to a community giant, Dock Monteria Brown, a very special friend who passed away on Tuesday, January 25, 2011.

Dock Monteria Brown was born on January 30, 1929 in Halifax County to Nelson and Vilvie Brown. His father was a Veteran of World War I.

Dock graduated from J.A. Chaloner Senior High School in 1948 and entered Shaw University that fall. In 1951, just one year before graduation, Dock was drafted into the U.S. Army and was deployed to fight in the Korean War.

He served for 12 months in Korea before returning to Fort Bragg and his native North Carolina to serve out the remainder of his tour. Immediately after his Honorable Discharge, Dock resumed his education at Shaw University and earned his undergraduate degree.

In order to fulfill his dream of becoming a teacher, Dock then attended my alma mater, North Carolina Central University and earned a Master's Degree in Sociology and School Administration. Dock taught high school History at Weldon High School and Eastman High School for 24 years, and served as principal of Pittman High School for 10 years.

As an educator, Dock Brown made a tremendous and undeniable impact on the lives of students in Halifax County. He was truly the catalyst for many young people growing into strong, well-educated and productive adult citizens.

Over his many years of service, he served as a Halifax County Commissioner; state representative in the North Carolina House of Representatives, Weldon Town Commissioner; Trustee at Elizabeth City State University, and as an appointee to the Governor's Commission to select Superior Court Judges. For his untiring service to the State of North Carolina, Dock was awarded the state's highest civilian honor—the Order of the Long Leaf Pine—by then-Governor James Hunt.

Dock Brown also served on the county's health board and he was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the State Mental Health Association for his tireless dedication to the issue of Mental Health.

He was also an active member of First Baptist Church in Roanoke Rapids starting at age 11, and he served in many capacities including Deacon for over fifty years.

Dock Brown was a true public servant with a legacy that will live on through the many people he inspired over the years, including myself. I had the pleasure of offering legislation to this body that was signed into law naming the Weldon, N.C. Post Office in honor to Dock Brown. It was a fitting honor, and I know his community will truly miss him.

Dock Brown leaves behind his wonderful wife, Helen, after nearly 60 years of marriage. They raised two wonderful children: Dock Brown, Jr. and Ivy Brown Singleton, who is married to U.S. Army Lt. Col. Terance Singleton, II.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the remarkable life of Dock Monteria Brown, and to join me in praying for his wife and family during these difficult times. I know they will draw comfort in knowing that he lived a great life and that he left a great and indelible mark on his community.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE BP DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL AND OFFSHORE DRILLING

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling for their thorough and comprehensive review of the disastrous Gulf oil spill. I appreciate the hard work and diligence of the Commissioners and their staff in compiling this report and know it will prove beneficial as we consider legislative responses to the spill during the 112th Congress. In addition, I would like to commend the Commission for completing the report on time and under budget.

By now, we are all too familiar with the account of the spill. On April 20th, a BP oil rig located 52 miles off of the Louisiana coast exploded with 126 workers on the rig, resulting in 11 families losing their loved ones. With no plan in place for failure of the blowout preventer and no clear leader in the federal response, efforts to stop the flow of oil from the